



PO Box 16391
San Diego, CA 92176
www.ktpg.org

Regular Meeting Minutes September 11, 2019

I. PARLIAMENTARY ITEMS

- The September 11, 2019 general meeting of the Kensington-Talmadge Planning Group was called to order by chairman Don Taylor at 6:30 PM.
- **Board members present:** Bill Adair, Norma Clark, Daniel Heller, Brian Helmich, Ken Horsley, Ari Isaak, Fred Lindahl, Elvia Sandoval, Deborah Sharpe, Lisa Sinclair, Don Taylor, Ralph Teyssier and Kelly Waggonner.
- **Board members not present:** Darlene Love and Julian Villegas.
- There were eleven (11) audience members who signed in.
- **Agenda Modifications:** No modifications were proposed.
- **Approval of Agenda:** **Approved unanimously.**
- **Approval of Minutes:** The August meeting minutes were approved unanimously, with one spelling correction noted. Minutes will continue to be distributed in MSWord and PDF formats.
- **Treasurer's Report** – No report. Darlene Love was not present.

II. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT & COMMUNITY FORUM

○ Paola Neira, representing District 9 councilmember Georgette Gomez

Questions from the Board:

- Brian Helmich asked why, with a Fairmount Avenue repaving project scheduled to begin in 4 to 5 weeks, is striping currently taking place on Fairmount to I-8?
- Elvia Sandoval stated that street lights around Fairmount and Aldine are not working. Kelly Waggoner suggested street work in that area may be the cause for lights not working and said that they have been out for some time.

Questions/comments from the audience:

- During the 3HH undergrounding project, historic sidewalk date stamps in Talmadge were removed and have not been reinstalled. It was mentioned that removal of these historic markers is forbidden under historic designation regulations.
 - Some streets in the eastern part of the Talmadge neighborhood have had little or no comprehensive maintenance or repair since their original construction, between 1929 and 1949. These need attention by the City's Streets department. Should this issue be considered for future CIP projects or repairs?
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- Don Taylor was recently given several KTPG documents by past KTPG Board member Louise Guarnotta. Some of these are believed to be from the 1980's or earlier, pre-dating construction of the I-15 freeway extension and overpass on Adams Avenue, which impacted the Kensington and Talmadge neighborhoods. The documents were given to Bill Adair, who will go through the material and determine how they should be archived.
 - Norma Clark stated that SB592, the Housing Accountability Act, had been amended in the California Assembly on September 9th and is moving forward.

III. NON-SUBCOMMITTEE ITEMS

- Information Item: **CicloSDias (Open Streets event) on October 27th**
 - Skii Fleeton, representing Bike Coalition, presented an overview of this event. This is a bike/walk/stroll/skate event through some of San Diego's most significant and historic neighborhoods - Normal Heights, City Heights and Kensington. There will be four (4) miles of two-way open streets for non-motorized activity. Streets will be closed to motorized vehicles. Some of the event details are not finalized, but the most updated information can be viewed at www.sdbikecoalition.org.

- Information Item: **Update on the Georgia/Meade Bikeway by SANDAG Project Manager Danny Veeh**
 - Plans have been finalized and approved and construction will begin in November 2019 on the 6.5-mile segment known as the Georgia/Meade Bikeway project. The route will pass through Kensington to the edge of Talmadge along Meade Avenue to Fairmount Avenue. Completion is projected to be in Spring 2022.
 - The complete bikeway map is available at www.GobyBIKEsd.com
 - Kensington will have two traffic circles installed, one at Meade and Central Avenues and another at Meade Avenue and Marlborough Drive.
 - A raised crosswalk will be installed at Meade and Copeland Avenues.
 - Central Avenue will be the North/South connecting point for the Georgia/Meade bike path.
 - Parking space along Meade will be reduced by 7 spaces at Central Avenue and 10 spaces at Marlborough Drive.
 - Driveway and school access will not be inhibited during construction and detour overlap should not occur.
 - A hotline will be established, and the contact number will be made available.
 - Properties affected during construction will be notified in advance by door hangers and postcard mailings.
 - Danny Veeh's complete PowerPoint presentation is available at:

www.KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/GeorgiaMeadeBikewayInvolved

(under the heading 'Community Presentations')

NON-SUBCOMMITTEE ITEMS (continued)

Board Comment/Questions:

- Aesthetics are a big concern regarding the traffic circles. When asked if vegetation could be installed in traffic circles, ***the response was that, while electrical and water conduit will be available, the City will not install vegetation due to maintenance concerns.***
- Permeable barriers, as described, were of concern because they allow weed growth to occur. ***The response was that the City will install weed barriers.***
- Trash cans blocking bike and traffic paths are an issue.
- Fire and emergency response times being compromised by traffic circles was discussed. Fire Station 14 has said that both Meade Avenue and Landis Street are major east/west routes used for emergency response. ***Danny Veeh stated the Fire Department has already 'signed off on' the bike path plan.***
- Merge points for vehicles and bicycles in traffic circles are a concern for potential conflicts. ***The response was that single-file riding should eliminate any such conflicts.***
- Concerns about excessive signage were raised. Some intersections were described as having as many as 42 signs (e.g. the Meade/Marlborough intersection). Excessive signage would be an eyesore.
- The use of boulders/rocks for decorative purposes in traffic circles is viewed as not keeping with the historical integrity of the Kensington/Talmadge neighborhood.
- Loss of parking is always a huge concern in Kensington/Talmadge.
- Asked why parking-protected bike lanes were not used, ***the response was that it affects sight lines of driveways. Parking would also be further reduced, losing two additional spaces per driveway.***
- Concern that the Climate Action and Vision Zero are not supported with reduced parking and increased stops/starts because of additional stop signs.
- Concern was voiced that traffic circles do not function as optimally as their design promises.
- Has additional lighting been planned for the bike path? ***The response was that upgrade of some existing streetlights will be made.***
- Will Trans Net funds be generated for neighborhoods where installations are placed? ***Unknown at this time.***
- Would traffic circles reduce traffic speeds? ***The response was that speed limits are determined by how fast traffic moves, in general.***

NON-SUBCOMMITTEE ITEMS (continued)

Board Comment/Questions: (continued)

- *Amendment to September minutes, as requested by Brian Helmich at the October 9th meeting and approved by the Board:*

“Brian Helmich noted SANDAG’s perceived past grossly inadequate outreach to residents along the Meade bikeway during the project’s planning phase, then asked for and received Danny Veeh’s spoken promise that SANDAG’s outreach to the Meade Bikeway-affected community would be much, much more adequate, satisfactory and effective through construction than it was during the project’s planning stage.”

Audience Comment/Questions:

- Restriction of traffic flow due to the traffic circles will result in more vehicles diverting to Adams Avenue.
- At the termination of Georgia/Meade path where does the path intend to go? *No response.*
- What was the cost of the Meade/Landis project? *Response was \$15-16 million.*
- A resident living near a proposed traffic circle stated she was unhappy due to the loss of most of the street parking adjacent to her home.
- Don Taylor asked that KTPG Board input be considered for design of future planned traffic circles if at all possible.

IV. SUBCOMMITTEE ITEMS

- **Transportation** – Chair: Ken Horsley
 - 44th St. and Monroe Avenue – The City has presented the final design and has eliminated the speed bump on Monroe from the design.
- **Monroe Avenue Transportation Corridor** – Chair: Brian Helmich
 - Lara Gates at Georgette Gomez’ office is interested in mitigating traffic queueing problems on Monroe Avenue, approaching Euclid from the east. TSW has opened a case to explore feasibility. Some progress is expected within the coming months.
- **Project Review** – Chair: Lisa Sinclair
 - Lisa has been working with Norma Clark on the cell tower design. Lisa will present design concepts at the November meeting for consideration by the Board. Norma noted that further detailed information will also be presented.

SUBCOMMITTEE ITEMS (continued)

- **CIP & Planning** – Chair: Deborah Sharpe

- No meeting

- **Communications** – Chair: Brian Helmich

- No meeting/No report

- **Historic Review** – Chair: Bill Adair

- 4733 Edgeware Road 92116 1910-1930? Recommended criteria C (style) and A (type/period/style)
- 4817 Kensington Drive 92116 1930 Recommended criterion C (style) and A (type/period/style)
- 4495 Euclid Avenue 92115 1927 Recommended criterion C (style)
- 4719 Norma Drive 92115 Not Historic
- 4642 Constance Drive 92115 Not Historic

- **Utility Undergrounding** – Chair: Don Taylor

- No meeting/No report

- **Kensington MADS** – Chair: Don Taylor

- No meeting/No report

- **Bylaws** – Chair: Don Taylor

- No Meeting/No report

V. KTPG LIAISON REPORTS

○ **Community Planners Committee (CPC) –Deborah Sharpe**

August 27th meeting

- **Regulation of Sidewalk Vending (Information)**
 - A proposal from the Mayor's office (to replace Push Cart regulations repealed as a result of SB946). Areas of the ordinance include: 1.) Permit required for all vendors - no insurance is required. 2.) Violations will be civil citations, not misdemeanors. 3.) Prohibits sidewalk vendors in congested areas and where Encroachment Removal Agreements exist within the right of way and include distance requirements.
 - CPC members voiced concerns regarding Code Enforcement for food safety on weekends when Code Enforcement staff typically are not working. It was suggested to allow vendors on joint use areas on school sites. Feedback can be sent via email to cbwear@sandiego.gov. The ordinance is being reviewed by the City Attorney's office and is expected to go to the City Council in October 2019 for approval.
 - **Dock-less Mobility Data Sharing (Action)**
 - A proposal made to the City of San Diego requesting all Personal Mobility Providers in San Diego provide rider data for current and future dock-less electric scooters, dock-less bicycles and any future dock-less mobility devices designed for individual users and enabled by smart phone apps. (Using an MS Excel format which can be shared and analyzed to better manage use of scooters.) There are 17 cities which already require such information.
 - **Ad-hoc Committee and Chair's Report to CPC**
 - Recommended changes to Administrative Regulations 600-24 are being prepared and will be shared with CPC members regarding the City Auditor's report recommendations and the Mayor's recommendations pertaining to the function of planning committees. Chair Wally Wulfeck informed CPC members he has been attending planning committees city-wide and understands the diversity of interests and issues - which leads him to feel it is not in each community's best interest to be reorganized into multiple, combined planning advisory groups (as had been proposed by the Auditor or Mayor's Office).
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- **Talmadge Maintenance Assessment District – Fred Lindahl**
 - No report

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.